



Rediscover SUNRISE NEWS

VOLUME 1 / SPRING 2008

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Frequently Used Numbers

Animal Control.....	794-0456
Cayce Historical Museum	739-5385
City Hall.....	796-9020
Public Safety	794-0456
Sanitation	796-9020 x-3044
Utilities	794-0456
Weekend/Emergencies	
Utility Line Breaks ...	796-9020 x-3042

LETTER FROM THE MAYOR



Spring is a busy time of year and at the City of Cayce, we continue to enjoy economic growth and prosperity. The City is engaged in a number of initiatives which we believe will not only enhance greater awareness among our citizens and business leaders' but also increase attention throughout the region about the benefits of living, working and visiting Cayce.

We have recently hired the Clare Morris Agency to assist us with our communications, and one of their recommendations was to increase the frequency of our newsletter. You will now receive more timely updates on community happenings and news through this revamped quarterly newsletter. We are also changing our look and hope you will begin to feel the excitement as we take a positive role in promoting our city, its many amenities and our overall outstanding quality of life.

We continue to see increased interest along the Twelfth Street corridor as SCANA expands its presence with construction of the new headquarters campus. The announcement by Southern First to locate its Midlands headquarters on Knox Abbott Drive is another positive sign that Cayce provides a convenient location, business-friendly climate and attractive workforce for this growing financial institution. Its strategic location on the historic Guignard property will anchor a mixed-use development that will not only be an attractive entrance into Cayce but also provide valuable opportunities for more businesses to locate in our community.

As Mayor, I am proud of the strong working relationships we have with our fellow municipalities in Lexington County as well as our friends across the river in Columbia and Richland County. We recently announced our participation in the Lexington County Stormwater Consortium, a collaborative effort to minimize polluted storm-water runoff. Cayce and our neighboring communities are working with Clemson University's Carolina Clear program to educate the public, builders, contractors, developers and government officials on how their actions may negatively impact water quality in the region.

Speaking of water, the Cayce Water Department was recently recognized by the South Carolina Dental Association for fluoridating its drinking water continuously for the more than 50 years. Cayce is one of the 13 communities across the state that holds this proud distinction.

We enjoy a great quality of life in Cayce -- affordable housing, numerous cultural and recreational amenities, friendly residents and a business-friendly atmosphere. Like our revamped logo and tagline suggests, I hope more people will come to "rediscover Cayce" and see the "new kind of city" life we have to offer.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

April 3	Council Meeting - 4:00 pm
April 21	Twice a week garbage pick up begins
April 26	Guided Nature Tours, Cayce Riverwalk Park
April 26	Cayce Plant Exchange, Cayce City Hall
April 30	Bulk/White Goods pick up
May 1	Photo Contest Deadline
May 6	Council Meeting - 6:00 pm
May 21	Bulk/White Goods pick up
May 26	Memorial Day – City Hall Closed, normal trash pick up
June 5	Council Meeting, 6:00 pm
June 25	Bulk/White Goods pick up

SUMMER PICK UP SCHEDULE

As a reminder, the City picks up bagged household garbage only twice a week beginning April 21 through September 26. Schedule for second day pick up is as follows:

<u>ORIGINAL PICK UP DAY</u>	<u>SECOND DAY PICK UP</u>
Monday	Thursday
Tuesday	Friday
Thursday	Monday of same week
Friday	Tuesday of same week

*** Please remember to bag your yard debris, too.***



CALVIN MCGEE NAMED CAYCE EMPLOYEE OF YEAR

Historical Museum Also Recognized as Department of Year

In January, the City of Cayce recognized Utilities Crew Leader Calvin McGee as its top employee in 2007. McGee has worked in the Utilities Department for almost 16 years, seeing it "through thick and thin" according to City Manager John Sharpe. **He's well respected by his co-workers for his knowledge of the operations and his resourcefulness.**

The Cayce Historical Museum was honored with the Sunrise Award as the City's top department in 2007 for its exceptional and consistent level of service to community citizens and visitors to Cayce. In addition to running the City's museum which has had visitors from all 50 states and 44 foreign countries, this department organizes Christmas Traditions, assists with the Lights of Cayce and Nature Tours, and helps other groups with events held on Cayce's Riverwalk.

"From running our utilities to hosting our visitors, maintaining our beautiful parks and making sure city operations run smoothly, Cayce is blessed to have so many capable professionals handling the day-to-day activities that make our city function properly," said Cayce Mayor Avery Wilkerson. "It is a pleasure to take time out of our busy schedules to celebrate the contributions and outstanding work our Cayce employees provide our community. We thank our award recipients for their continued dedication and hard work."

In addition to recognizing city employees, Sharpe also shared various 2007 highlights that further demonstrate Cayce's employees' capacity to work at a very high level.

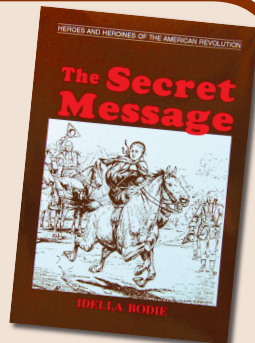
- The City's Comprehensive Annual Audit Report received its fourth consecutive Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting from the Government Finance Officers Association.
- An additional half mile was completed on the Cayce Riverwalk Park, extending the pathway to the Riverland Park area.
- Phase 1 of the State Street streetscaping project was completed from the railroad to Lexington Avenue.
- Cayce partnered with Keep the Midlands Beautiful on a beautification project that will plant trees and provide green space along the Airport Boulevard corridor.
- The Lloydwood and Bellemead wastewater systems were acquired and a new pumpstation built to handle these new customers.
- The Council approved a pilot program for the Sanitation Department to test roll carts.
- The City approved seven annexations that included a total of 3,212 acres of land.

THE SECRET MESSAGE

New Book Honors a South Carolina Heroine of the American Revolution

Did you know that one of the most daring rides of the Revolutionary War took place here in the Cayce area in 1781?

Local author Idella Bodie's new book, *The Secret Message*, depicts the heroic ride of a young woman, Emily Geiger, and reminds readers of the important but little known role women played in America's war for independence.



In the summer of 1781, General Nathaniel Greene was desperate to get a message to General Thomas Sumter, who was many miles away. Emily Geiger (Gee-ger), a farmer's daughter, came to General Greene's aid. She knew the local countryside well and her courage was equal to that of any man in Greene's army. Her long ride through enemy territory took several days.

Mrs. Bodie's dramatized account of young Emily's ride is based on fact; dialogue is included to add color for the young reader.

The *Secret Message* is the second in a series of books to be published by Sandlapper Publishing in Orangeburg on heroes and heroines of the American Revolution.

The Cayce Historical Museum has copies of this delightful book on sale for only \$6. It would make a great gift for young students.

Cayce Historical Museum hours:
Tuesday – Friday 9:00 am – 4:00 pm
Saturday – Sunday 2:00 pm – 5:00 pm
803-739-5385



AMATEUR PHOTO CONTEST ANNOUNCED

The City of Cayce wants your photos for its 2008-2009 city calendar. "We are looking for photos that demonstrate why Cayce is such a great place to live," said City Manager John Sharpe. "There are a lot of positive things happening in our community and we want to capture that excitement and display that pride in our upcoming citizens' calendar."

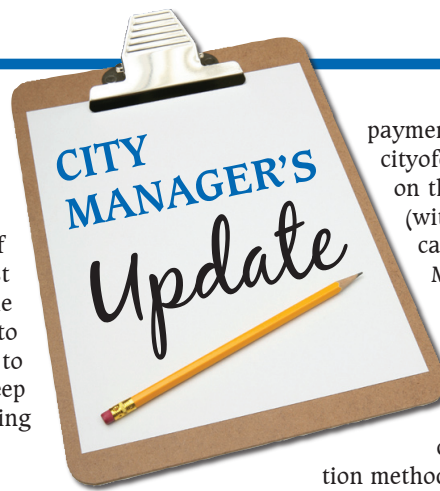
Photos should be color and submitted as a 8"x10" image with name of photo, name of photographer, and completed registration and release forms, which are located on the City of Cayce web site (<http://www.cityofcayce-sc.gov>).

The deadline for entry is Thursday, May 1, 2008. There will be a \$100 cash prize for the best photo which will appear on the cover as well as part of the calendar. In addition, the grand prize winner and contestants of the 11 other winning photographs will receive Reflections of Cayce posters.

For more information contact Tammy Barkley at 796-9020 or tbarkley@cityofcayce-sc.gov. The official contest forms and rules are located on the city's web site: www.cityofcayce-sc.gov.

We'd like to thank everyone who participated in our recent **citizens' survey** conducted by USC. Please check out the article below for more results on how satisfied Cayce residents are with their community. Over half of the respondents reported they get most of their information about the city from the newsletter! As a result, we have decided to increase our frequency to four times a year to make this communication tool timely and keep you updated on all the exciting news happening in our community.

In March, the city revised the **online credit card payment system for utility bill payments** to make it more user-friendly. Please note that you will no longer be able to view your entire account online. However, the new system will provide us with your payment information faster so that your account can be credited in a more efficient manner. You can access the online



payment system by visiting our web site at www.cityofcayce-sc.gov, and clicking on the payment link on the home page. Be sure to have your utility bill (with your account number) and credit or debit card readily available. We only accept VISA or Master Card.

Cayce's on a roll! Our pilot program using **roll carts for household garbage service is underway**. Approximately 750 residents have received their roll carts to date. The roll carts offer an easier and safer sanitation collection method for our residents and staff. The carts hold the same amount of household garbage as three to four regular trash cans and their sturdy wheels are easy to maneuver. The carts also improve collection efficiency and help keep the city streets and neighborhoods cleaner and healthier for everyone. Stay tuned--we'll keep you posted on the results!

CAYCE RANKS HIGH IN CUSTOMER SATISFACTION

City residents gave Cayce high marks for its quality of life, safety and security, and as a great place to raise a family, according to a recent customer satisfaction survey conducted by the University of South Carolina. And these high ratings were seen across all demographic categories.

Almost 70 percent of residents rated the overall cleanliness of Cayce as "high" or "highest" with neighborhoods, city streets and Knox Abbott Drive also receiving high marks.

Cayce's recreational opportunities were recognized by more than 66 percent of residents as being a vital part of city life. Sixty percent of residents reported visiting at least one of the city's parks in the past 12 months, with Cayce's Riverwalk being the most popular. In addition, 40 percent of residents attended one of the city's festivals or special events during the past year.

Residents also felt good about the way the city is run. City services, including police protection, sanitation, water and sewer services, fire protection, animal control and recycling, were viewed as well run and received high marks.

Citizens cited road conditions and congestion, beautification, crime and water quality as areas of concern along with recruiting more businesses to the community. Some expressed a desire for increased shopping opportunities and encouraging more home ownership in the city.

Probably most noteworthy for city leadership was the 74 percent of respondents who said their city property taxes were "about right." And over half supported greater funding for the city's economic development efforts.



"It is always beneficial to take the pulse of our citizens and make sure the efforts led by City Hall are accomplishing what we set out to do," said Mayor Avery Wilkerson. "These results confirm that the majority of our citizens value the City of Cayce as a good place to live, work and play. City services are matching our customers' needs and we have a great quality of life that makes the best of our close proximity to the state's capital and yet is a bridge away to a safe and clean community that people are proud to call home."



4TH ANNUAL CAYCE PLANT EXCHANGE

The Cayce Plant Exchange, sponsored by the Beautification Board, will be held Saturday, April 26, 2008 at City Hall (1800 12th St. Extension) at 10:00 am. Residents are encouraged to arrive early to place plants. Once the whistle blows, each person chooses a plant and continues until all plants are exchanged.

You don't have to bring a plant to participate. If you have extra plants, bulbs, or seeds please bring them. There will also be a Master Gardener available to answer any questions. For more information, please contact Diane Hutto at 796-9020.

GUIDED NATURE TOURS FOR CHILDREN AND ADULTS – FREE

Noted naturalist Dr. Rudy Mancke will host two guided nature tours in the Cayce Riverwalk Park on Saturday, April 26. The first tour begins at 10:00 am and is geared for children, although they must be accompanied by an adult. Each child will receive a special gift for participating. The second tour for adults begins at 1:00 pm.

As one of Cayce's most popular events, the tours are free, but space is limited to 40 participants for each session. Make your reservation in advance by calling City Hall at 796-9020. Tour participants will meet 15 minutes prior to the tour at the N Avenue entrance of the park. And please wear comfortable clothing and shoes!



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PO BOX 2004
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